

State of Maryland  
Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

State Board for the Certification of Residential Child Care Program Professionals  
General Session Minutes - February 11, 2011  
Metro Executive Building - Room 100  
Baltimore, Maryland

In Attendance

Albert Zachik, MD, Chair  
Bruce Anderson, Secretary  
Carmen Brown  
Cheryl Brown  
William Childers  
Shanda Browder  
Krystal McKinney  
Ada Pearl Thomas  
Mary Rode

Absent

Robin El-Amin, Chair  
Steve Sorin

Staff

Kimberly Mayer, Executive Director  
Carol Johnson, Deputy Director  
Francesca Gibbs, AAG

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Dr. Albert Zachik, Chair of the State Board for the Certification of Residential Child Care Program Professionals ("State Board") called the meeting to order at approximately 9:40 AM.

**II. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF GENERAL SESSION MINUTES**

The State Board reviewed the General Session Minutes from the January 14, 2011, meeting. Motion made by Bruce Anderson: Approve the General Session Minutes as prepared. Motion seconded by Carmen Brown. Motion approved unanimously.

**III. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Kimberly Mayer, Executive Director of the State Board reported:

A. RCYCP Certification Program - The State Board for the Certification of Residential Child Care Program Professionals ("State Board") approved a work plan for the implementation of the RCYCP certification program. A copy of the updated plan was provided in the meeting materials.

B. State Board Meeting Dates - Mark your calendar...The 2011 meeting dates are March 11, April 8, May 13, June 10, July 8, September 9, October 14, and December 9. The State Board will not meet in August or November. CRCCPAs may earn continuing education credit for attending State Board meetings.

C. State Standards Examinations for RCCPAs - For 2011, the State Standards Examination for RCCPAs will be administered on February 14 and August 24. Any individual who is invited to take the State Standards Examination may contact the State Board's office to request special accommodations for alternate exam dates.

D. Budget Hearings - The State Board has been advised that the Budget Hearings for the Health Occupation Boards will be held on February 16 (House Hearing) and February 17 (Senate Hearing) at 1:00 PM.

E. Legislative Report - Senate Bill 344/House Bill 387 - "Residential Child and Youth Care Practitioner - Definition" would exempt Therapeutic Group Homes ("TGHs") from the certification requirement for direct care workers. The Board conducted an electronic vote regarding this legislation and will oppose the legislation as drafted.

The State Board supports professionalizing the role of the direct care worker through certification. Certification establishes uniform requirements and qualifications for individuals who are entrusted to care and supervise vulnerable children. Certification

assures that individuals have an appropriate background and core competencies necessary to effectively manage situations that can arise when caring for children.

Therapeutic group homes serve the most challenging youth in out-of-home placements. The exclusion of these residential child care programs from the certification requirement results in children who have the greatest need being cared for by staff who will not have to demonstrate their ability to meet a minimum uniform standard.

The State Board recognizes the fiscal implication that certification imposes and acknowledges that there are areas in which to improve the certification process for direct care workers. The State Board is currently evaluation the current regulatory framework through its Statutory/Regulatory Workgroup. Therefore, the State Board recommends that any modification to the certification requirement be further studied.

The State Board anticipates that its study will be completed by this Fall. This would allow ample time to prepare corrective legislation, if necessary.

F. Certification Report - As of February 10, the State Board reports:

Board Code		
Board	Status Codes	Occurrences
Acting Capacity	Active	4
Acting Capacity	Inactive	3
Program Administrator	Active	151
Program Administrator	Deceased	1
Program Administrator	Inactive	1
Program Administrator	Non-renewed	51
Program Administrator	Revoked	1
Program Administrator	Surrendered	3
	<b>Total:</b>	215

V. **STATUTORY/REGULATORY WORKGROUP REPORT**

Mary Rode, Chair of the State Board's Statutory/Regulatory Workgroup, provided an overview of the highlights from the last Workgroup's meeting. The Workgroup is discussing grandfathering provisions for current direct care staff, the State Board's ability to waive fees on a need basis, and continuing education requirements. Minutes from the Workgroup's meeting were included in the Board's meeting packet.

VI. **REVIEW AND APPROVAL: CRCCPA-D APPLICATION**

The State Board reviewed a draft of the application and requested that it be reviewed by the Statutory/Regulatory Workgroup.

VII. **OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

The State Board offered an opportunity for public comment at the meeting. No comments were made.

VIII. **ADJOURN**

Pursuant to the Maryland State Government Article, Annotated Code of Maryland, §10-501 et seq. on a motion made by Cheryl Brown and seconded by Ada Pearl Thomas, those State Board members present unanimously voted to close the General Session meeting at 10:30 AM for the purpose of complying with the Maryland Certification of Residential Child Care Program Professionals Act that prevents disclosures about particular matters. The State Board will review applications and address complaints and disciplinary issues.